III. *Some Conjectures concerning the* Position *of the* Colure *in the* ancient Sphere; *communicated in a Letter from the Rev^d* Ebenezer Latham, *M. D. and V. D. M. to Dr.* Mortimer, *Secr.* R. S.

SIR,

Read Nov. 18. 1742. I Have an Opportunity of tranſmiting to you a Draught of the Conſtellation *Aries*, as it was exactly copied by Dr. *White*, from a Book in the fine Library of your learned Uncle *Samuel Sanders*, Eſq; a worthy Member of the ROYAL SOCIETY. I do not know whether it may not be eſteemed of ſome Moment towards the determining the famous Controverſy with reſpect to Sir *Iſaac Newton*'s Chronology. Dr. *Halley* obſerves *, "That the Diſpute is chiefly, Over what Part of the "Back of *Aries* the *Colure* paſſed. Sir *Iſaac Newton* "takes it to be over the Middle of the Conſtellation; "*P. Souciet* will have it, that it paſſed over the Mid-"dle of the *Dodecatemorion* of *Aries*, which by "Conſequence would make it paſs about Mid-way "between the Rump and Firſt of the Tail;" which Situation could never be ſaid to be over the Back: Whereas, if the Ring in this Cut [*ſee in the* TAB. Fig. 1.] was deſigned, as I apprehend, to image the

* *Philoſophical Tranſactions*, N° 397.

Colure

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Colure in the *ancient Sphere*, it exactly anſwers *Hipparchus*'s Deſcription—ἐν δὲ τῷ ἑτέρῳ κολούρῳ φησὶ κεῖσθαι τὸν κριὸν τὰ νῶτα κατὰ πλάτος. and juſtifies the Conſtruction Sir *Iſaac* put on thoſe Words beyond Exception. The Sculptures from whence this was taken, have the Title of *Aratæa, ſive Signa Cœleſtia, in quibus Aſtronomicæ Speculationes Veterum ad Archetypa vetuſtiſſimi Aratæorum Cæſaris Germanici Codicis* (44) *ob oculos ponuntur a Jacobo de Geyn ex Biblioth. Acad. Lugd. Bat. Amſtel.* 1652. *

As I have no Opportunity to conſult the Original, it might give more Weight to the Account, if the *Connoiſſeurs* of your learned SOCIETY could ſupport the Engraver's Teſtimony as to the great Antiquity of that. I will only beg Leave to obſerve farther, that as this Catalogue begins with the *Draco*, which the Ancients ſeem to place at the Head of their Conſtellations; perhaps it may give ſome Light into the Time of the Book of *Job*, as well as into the Senſe of that Place. For when he ſays, Chap. xxvi. 13. *By his Spirit he has garniſhed the Heavens; his Hand has formed the crooked Serpent*; I ſubmit it to the Judgment of the Critics, whether it is not highly probable the Writer muſt have lived within that Period of Time wherein a Star of that Conſtellation might paſs for the Polar Star: And then, if the Aſteriſms are ſuppoſed to be placed in ſome ſuch Order as here, the expreſs Mention that he only makes

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. * *Hug. Grotii Batavi Syntagma Arateorum: ex offic. Plantin. 4to.* See *Germanicus*'s Interpretation, *p.* 35. the Figure of the Conſtellation *Aries*.

of

of this, was ſufficient to refer us to the whole Syſtem or Furniture of the Heavens. But I am afraid I become tedious. I am

Your Illuſtrious SOCIETY's,
and your moſt obedient,
humble Servant,

Findern, July 8. 1742.

E. Latham.

IV. *The Caſe of an Extraordinary* Dropſy, *communicated in a Letter from* Tho. Short, *M. D. to* C. Mortimer, *M. D. Sec.* R. S.

Sheffield, Aug. 2. 1742.

SIR,

Read Nov. 18. 1742.

THE following Caſe being ſomewhat uncommon, perhaps it may not be wholly unworthy of your Notice. Laſt *January* I was called to viſit a young Woman of Thirty Years of Age, who about Seven Years ago, had like a ſevere Fit of the Stone in her Left Kidney, with all the common Symptoms of a Stone, but by ſome Means recovered again. Three Years ago ſhe had another Fit, but got better in a few Days; though ſhe moſtly complained of a dull Pain in that Place ever after. When I ſaw her, I found her *Menſes* had been very irregular and ſmall ſince her laſt *Paroxyſm*, and totally obſtructed ſince *September*; her Pulſe very ſmall and quick, her Countenance pale and languid; a Pain at the Pit of her Stomach, towards the

Philosoph. Trans. N.° 466.

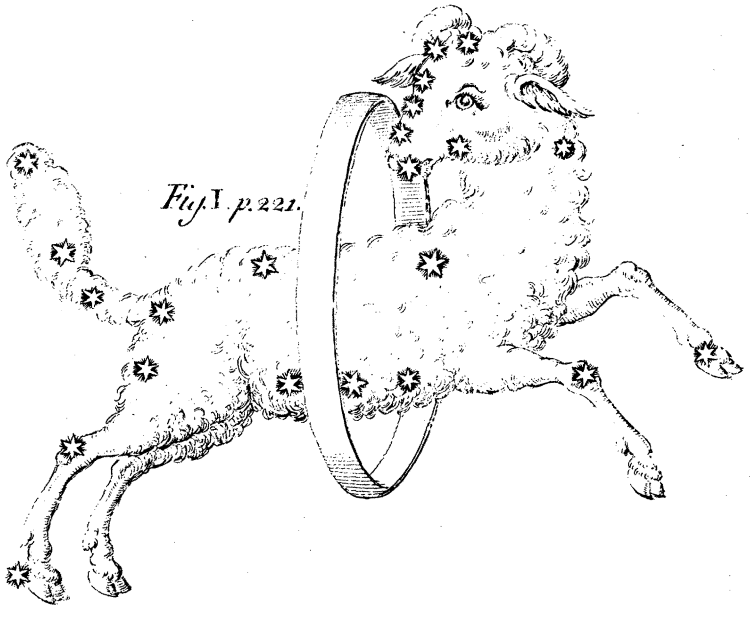

Fig. I. *p.* 221.

Fig. II. *p.* 274.

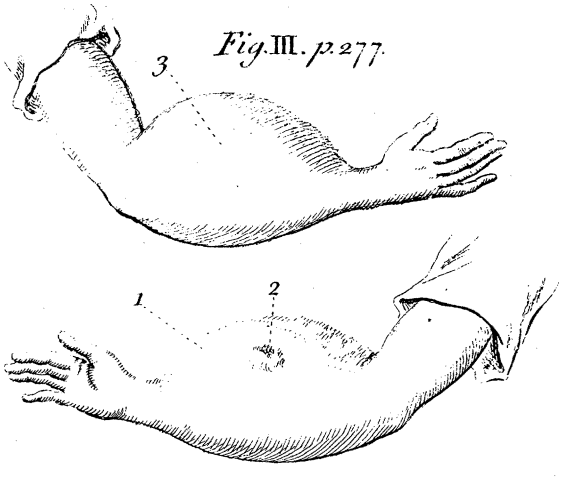

Fig. III. *p.* 277.

J. Mynde sc.